



Vol. 3 — No. 9

401

May 13, 1956



1,000 Lobby in Capital For Minimum Wage Retail Coverage

-- See Pages 2-5



RWDSU LOBBYISTS head with determined stride for congressmen's offices after rendezvous at Capitol steps. More than 1,000 delegates buttonholed well over 100 legislators of House and Senate, urging them to act for extension of federal minimum wage law to retail industry.



TOP OFFICERS of RWDSU gather on platform in grand ballroom of Willard Hotel in Washington for orientation meeting with delegates. Efficient preparation of lobbying assignments made for high number of visits to legislators. Sec-Treas. Al Heaps at microphone.



TELLING NEW YORK of the mission of this trainload of RWDSUers are, l. to r., Bloomingdale Local 3 Chairman Hy Brodkin, Int'l Exec. Vice-Pres. Alex Bail, Macy Local 1-S Vice-Pres. Phil Hoffstein, and District 65 Dept. Store Dir. Carl Andren. Special train brought 550 members to Washington.

Record photos by Roland Willoughby

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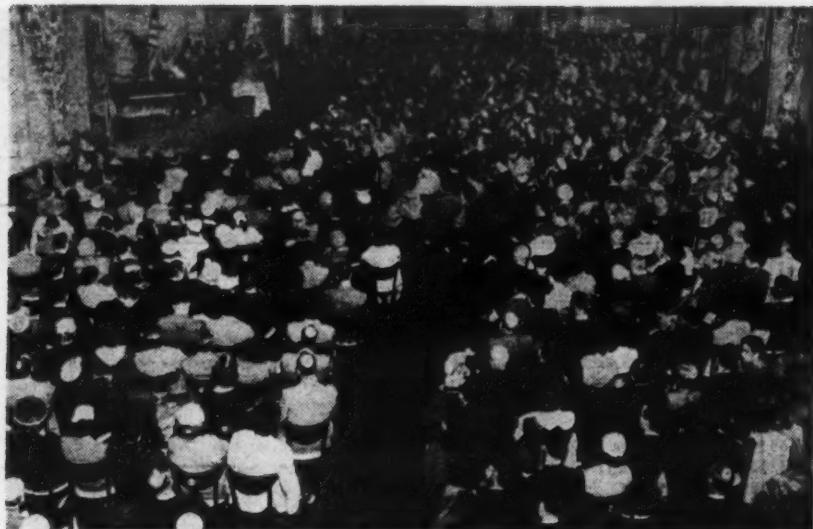
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rwdsu RECORD



SEN. DOUGLAS SAYS 'YES'. Pledge of support for extension of coverage under Minimum Wage Law is given officers of RWDSU by Illinois Senator, who heads Labor Sub-Committee. L. to r. Exec. Vice-Pres. Bail, 'Record' Mng. Ed. Stephens, Pres. Greenberg, 'Record' Ed. Steinbock, Leg. Rep. Meiklejohn, Exec. Sec. Paley, Sec.-Treas. Heaps, '65' Org. Dir. Michelson.



MORE THAN 1000 DELEGATES crowded grand ballroom of Hotel Willard in Washington for meeting prior to lobbying for extension of coverage to retail trade employees. Cheers greeted address by Senator Lehman pledging his untiring efforts to win coverage in this session of Congress. AFL-CIO spokesmen also addressed meeting.

HUGE RWDSU MINIMUM WAGE LOBBY PUSHES COVERAGE FOR RETAIL

WASHINGTON, D. C.—More than 1,000 delegates from 22 states and some 100 local unions of the RWDSU converged on the nation's Capital Wednesday, May 2 for the biggest labor lobby in the experience of veteran unionists. By train, plane, bus and auto the RWDSU delegates poured into Washington to ask of their legislators speedy action to extend coverage under the Federal Minimum Wage Law for 7,000,000 workers in the retail industry.

The delegates met first at the Hotel Willard, filling its huge grand ballroom to capacity, and listening to an address by Senator Herbert H. Lehman (D., N. Y.), a staunch fighter for minimum wage coverage for retail employees; and reports on the legislative picture by Hyman Bookbinder and Walter Mason, AFL-CIO legislative representatives. R. J. Thomas, representing AFL-CIO Pres. George Meany, assured the great assemblage that labor has given extension of coverage "No. 1 priority" at this session of Congress.

RWDSU Pres. Max Greenberg, who chaired the session, pledged that the International Union's leaders "will not rest until coverage for retail is won." He recalled that last year's RWDSU Mobilization in Washington, which saw 650 delegates assemble, helped to win the \$1 minimum wage—"but our own important demand for retail coverage had to be put aside. This year we know that all of organized labor supports our efforts to win extended coverage."

The 1,000-plus delegates then left the Willard for their vital lobbying assignments. Buttonholing their Representatives and Senators all over Capitol Hill, the vocal, alert delegates presented powerful arguments for ending the discriminatory situation which deprives retail workers of the \$1 an hour minimum wage in effect since last March 1.

"Our industry should be covered because it is big business," they told the legislators, and the proof was in the firms they work for—the huge department stores, the national shoe chains, drug emporiums, men's and women's apparel chains, supermarkets, restaurants, variety chains, etc.

"In virtually all of our shops we have at least a \$1 minimum," they declared, "but many big companies are paying as low as 50 cents an hour, and this drags down wages for the entire retail industry, including our own shops. That is why retail is far below other industries in average wages."

Appalled at Facts Shown by Delegates

The congressmen and senators listened carefully. Many said they were appalled at the facts presented by the RWDSU delegates; that they had not been aware so many workers in retail were not protected by the \$1 minimum wage. Some legislators said they opposed coverage of the small "momma and papa" store, but they were assured that the RWDSU does not propose that this type of store be covered—that this is only a tiny part of a problem which chiefly concerns the big chains and department stores dominating the retail field, companies that can well afford to pay a minimum of \$1 an hour and more to their employees.

A large majority of congressmen and senators, visited by the delegates said they would vote for extending coverage to retail employees—

if such bills came out of committee and reach the floor of the Senate and the House of Representatives before Congress adjourns this summer. It became clear to the delegates that bringing bills for extended coverage out of committee is the key job ahead.

RWDSU officers met with Senator Paul Douglas (D., Ill.), chairman of the Senate Labor Committee, and found him greatly interested in extending coverage. He promised a "fair hearing" to the RWDSU point of view at sessions of his committee which began May 8. If the Republicans can be won over, he said, a bill will be reported out to the Senate floor, and such a bill has a good chance of passing.

While delegates found a large number of Representatives favoring retail coverage, a key stumbling block is the attitude of Rep. Graham Barden (D., S. C.), chairman of the House Labor Committee, who revealed to Southern delegates that he opposes the legislation. He said that hearings "may" be held by his committee, but it was clear that the RWDSU Minimum Wage Mobilization of May 2 must be followed up with strong demands from thousands of RWDSU members—by letter, postcard and telegram—that both Democrats and Republicans see to it that the House Committee holds hearings quickly, and that a favorable bill be reported out. If this happens, the RWDSU delegates were reliably informed, the bill will pass the House.

SENATE HEARINGS have opened on proposal to extend coverage under federal minimum wage law, and among first to testify was RWDSU Pres. Greenberg, who appeared before Senate Labor subcommittee Wednesday, May 8, as *The Record* went to press. Accompanying Pres. Greenberg to the hearings were Vice-Pres. Bill Michelson and Leg. Rep. Kenneth Meiklejohn. The remarks of Pres. Greenberg and others who appeared at the hearings will be covered in the next issue of *The Record*. (At right, Pres. Greenberg is shown with Senator Lehman at meeting of RWDSU delegates May 2 in Washington. In background is Tom Bagley, President of Local 670).



How did we do in Washington on our Minimum Wage Mobilization May 2? Results show Many Congressmen on our side, that letters, telegrams can win Extended Coverage!

Many Congressmen Back Retail Coverage

BOX-SCORE ON CONGRESS

Alabama

Rep. George Huddleston (D.) is very much in favor, feels House Labor Committee hearings should be started immediately for extended coverage, says "There are far too many people in this country who do not make sufficient wages to half way meet their living expenses. The retail field needs the protection of the Minimum Wage Law more than anyone else does." If hearings are held, he believes extension has fairly good chance of being passed. Rep. Carl Elliot (D.) favors extension: "There are more retail people in my district and in District 9 than in any other part of the State. I realize that people cannot live decently on the wages they earn in the retail field. The sooner more congressmen and senators realize this, the better it will be. You can certainly expect my cooperation in getting the Law extended."

Arizona

Rep. John Rhodes (R.) favors covering retail workers. Rep. Steward L. Udall (D.) favors proposal, believes in "equality for all employees."

Arkansas

Rep. James W. Trimble (D.) believes retail employees should be covered in order to help them buy more goods and thus bolster our economy.

Delaware

Rep. Harris McDowell (D.) "wholeheartedly supports" legislation to include retail employees, urges people to write letters, cards and telegrams: "This will have a good effect on lawmakers and the Rules Committee."

Florida

Sen. Speppard L. Holland (D.) Not in favor of any minimum wage coverage. Rep. Dante B. Faseel (D.) is not favorable: "Retail employees should make more money, but not through extended coverage."

Illinois

Senator Paul Douglas (D.) will support and work for extending coverage. Rep. James C. Murray (D.) favors bill but doubts favorable action by Congress this session. Feels more pressure should be brought specifically on members of the Labor Committee. If the bill is blasted out of the committee, "there is no doubt that it will be passed." Rep. Harold H. Velde (R.) favors extended coverage but doubts its passing. He will vote for bill if the committee has sessions and if he receives 100 letters from his state. Rep. James A. Bowler (D.) favors bill but says it only has a chance if it comes out of Labor Committee. Rep. Leslie C. Arends (R.) refused to discuss matter with delegates. Rep. Margaret Church (R.) stated a "worry" about the small merchant in any bill regarding retail legislation or food processing. Would not commit herself. Rep. William E. McVey (R.) stated he would "probably" support coverage for retail employees, provided bill does not include the small merchant. Rep. Sidney Yates (D.) supports broadened coverage. Rep. Barrett O'Hara (D.) will support and fight for extended coverage. Showed thorough knowledge of all of the issues involved. Rep. Charles A. Boyle (D.) solidly in support of extended coverage. A sure "yes" vote on any improved bill that hits the floor. Rep. Timothy Sheehan (R.) stated that if the bill exempts the small corner-store-type merchant, he will definitely favor extended coverage.

Massachusetts

Sen. John F. Kennedy (D.) Will do his best to get extended coverage, has been "fighting for this all along." Sen. Leverett Saltonstall (R.) Will have to "look over the bill and the facts" to see if it is "good for the country as a whole." Rep. John McCormack (D.) favors extended coverage. Rep. Thomas P. O'Neill (D.) favors bill and believes pressure should be put on "so called Democrats" from the South.

Michigan

Sen. Pat McNamara (D.) favors extended coverage. He has a bill before the Committee for coverage of food workers, "but it can be interpreted to cover all."

Minnesota

Sen. Hubert H. Humphrey (D.) supports extended coverage 100%. Rep. Roy W. Wier (D.) is on Labor Committee, will do "everything possible" to get it put on agenda." It is difficult getting it discussed by Committee, one Republican vote is necessary."

Missouri

Rep. George H. Christopher (D.) Surprised that retail employees are not covered; feels they should be.

Montana

Rep. Orvin B. Fjare (R.) feels Congress might be "doing wrong" in setting pattern. Stated he would favor covering big corporations, not small business. He intimated, as a member of House Labor Committee, no action would be taken. Rep. Lee Metcalf (D.) favors extended coverage.

New Hampshire

Rep. Perkins Bass (R.) is uncommitted at present, but sympathetic and aware of problems facing wage earners in the N. H. area. Feels that the 60-70c hourly wage in some large retail stores "is certainly inadequate." Rep. Chester E. Morrow (R.) favors extended coverage.

New Jersey

Rep. Robert W. Kean (R.) favors bills, feels minimum wage "is as good for one as another." Rep. Frank Thompson (D.) favors coverage, says if Southern Democrats vote yes, Republicans will be swayed: "The Southern bloc is a major factor in stopping this bill."

New York

Sen. Herbert H. Lehman (D.) favors coverage, will work hard for legislation (has bill in Senate). Rep. Frank Becker (R.) favors coverage "and I will so vote; voting for this bill in no way reflects the help I have received from organized labor." Rep. John H. Ray (R.) is non-committal, but "interested" to learn that our goal is to cover big business chains and not small stores. Rep. Herbert Zelenko (D.) Has introduced a bill and asks pressure on Labor Committee to meet and force public hearings. Rep. Victor L. Anfuso (D.) believes coverage stands a good chance of passage, and is very much in favor of bill. Rep. John R. Pillion (R.) said New York State law has provided for those not covered by the Federal Minimum Wage, but is in favor of "fair coverage" for retail and others.

Rep. Emanuel Celler (D.) is very much in favor. Rep. James J. Delaney (D.) favors coverage but a little doubtful on how bill will come out of Committee. Rep. James Donovan (D.) favors extended coverage. Rep. Isidore Dollinger (D.) favors fuller coverage. Rep. Francis E. Dorn (R.) favors coverage. Rep. Paul A. Fine (R.) favors coverage, would be willing to introduce legislation favorable to labor. Rep. Ralph Gwinn (R.) is against extended coverage; against labor. Rep. Lester Holtzman (D.) favors coverage. Rep. Arthur G. Klein (D.) favors coverage. Rep. Eugene J. Keogh (D.) favors coverage, supported it last session. Rep. Bernard W. Kearney (R.) in favor, "but not for small stores employing up to 70 people." Rep. Kenneth B. Keating (R.) Would not commit himself. Rep. Abraham Multer (D.) favors "all benefits aiding workers." Rep. Lee W. O'Brien (D.) favors coverage, feels Election year gives it more of a chance. Rep. Adam C. Powell (D.) favors coverage. Rep. John James Rooney (D.) is "all for it" — said he didn't realize retail wasn't covered thoroughly. Rep. Stuyvesant Walnwright (R.) favors bill and is working on it. Rep. J. Ernest Wharton (R.) "will see what happens at hearings."

Ohio

Sen. John Bricker, (R.) refused to make a commitment: "I favor lowering of taxes to raise people's income rather than extending coverage under the minimum wage law." Sen. George Bender, (R.) said: "You name it. I'm for anything you fellows in labor want." Rep. John Vorys, (R.) promised to study the bills, but said he thought it was "the responsibility of unions to get wage increases for people, and not the federal government." Rep. J. Harry McGregor, (R.) seemed favorable, although he would make no commitments. Rep. James G. Folk, (D.) said: "I'm all for covering retail employees under the federal minimum wage law, and I'll do everything in my power to see that it gets through." He urged the delegates to write and wire Labor Committee members of Congress. Rep. Frances B. Bolton, (R.) "would like workers to earn more money." She would vote "yes" on a bill for extended coverage.

Oregon

Rep. Edith Green (D.) is very favorable: "I am a proponent of bill to extend coverage."

Pennsylvania

Rep. George M. Rhodes (D.) favors extended coverage, feels retail employees especially in need of same.

Rhode Island

Rep. John Fogerty (D.) favors extended coverage, specifically for retail employees. Rep. Aime Forand (D.) favors coverage.

West Virginia

Rep. M. Burnie Burnside (D.) favors coverage. Rep. Robert Byrd (D.) favors coverage, with limitation to protect small business owners. Rep. Cleveland Bailey (D.) favors coverage.

North Carolina

Rep. Graham Barden (D.) is not in favor of the extended coverage, says this should be left up to State laws: "Some states have laws to protect people on lower paying jobs. Hearings of Labor Committee (which he heads) "may" be held this session of Congress."

Wisconsin

Sen. Alexander Wiley (R.) is "sympathetic."

Sidelights On D. C. Lobby



"OF COURSE I SUPPORT EXTENDED COVERAGE," says Rep. Emanuel Celler of New York to RWDSU delegates from Chicago and other cities in impromptu interview on steps of Capitol building. Congressman Celler, a noted champion of labor's interests, is member of law firm which represents RWDSU's District 65 in New York.



"NO, CAN'T SAY THAT I AGREE WITH YOU" is comment of Illinois Sen. Everett Dirksen as he discusses extending coverage in his office with busy Chicago delegation, headed by Joint Board Pres. Hank Anderson (2nd from L.). Chicago RWDSUers flew into Washington on May 2, saw many Congressmen, returned the same day.



YOUNG, LIBERAL MASS. SEN. KENNEDY informed delegation of RWDSUers that he will press vigorously for legislation to extend coverage under federal minimum wage law to retail. A member of Senate Labor committee considering extending coverage, Sen. Kennedy expressed confidence legislation will be passed by the Senate.

GOOD MAN ON OUR SIDE: Sen. Paul Douglas of Illinois, chairman of the Senate Labor sub-committee, at a meeting with officers of the RWDSU told of an experience in his youth which fits him very well for his role as a leading spokesman in the Senate for extension of the federal minimum wage law to retail employees. Way back in 1914, when he was a student at Columbia University in New York City, Douglas made what must have been the first attempt to organize Stern Bros. department store on 42nd St. His speech to the workers to organize for higher wages, however, was disrupted by the police, who chased him away as he protested vainly that there was a law protecting free speech. Sterns, of course, is now organized in District 65 of the RWDSU—and the Senator is in a somewhat better position to help the fight for higher retail wages than he was 43 years ago.

'FIRST' FOR SEN. DIRKSEN: The Illinois RWDSU delegation was in the office of Senator Everett Dirksen, Republican, who is famous for his smooth speaking ability, and not so famous for his opposition to anything labor wants. Finally, having stated their case as patiently and clearly as they could, and having gotten nothing from the Senator in the way of an answer on the issue, they got up to leave. Lenrow Austin, of Local 194 Chicago, then said, "Senator Dirksen, I'd like to have something to remember this visit by. How about one of your nice cigars?" "Why sure, have a cigar," said the Senator. Outside Dirksen's office, Austin held his cigar up and said, "I guess this is the first time Dirksen ever gave anything to labor."

SELMA'S FAR FLUNG FAMILY: A most unusual and effective approach to congressmen was that of Selma Rabinowitz of Saks-34th department store in New York. She was able to get into friendly conversation with every legislator the delegation visited, including those from states other than her own New York. Seems there are members of her family scattered throughout the nation, and Selma was able to mention to a South Carolina congressman, "You must know my sister, she lives right in your district!" This approach worked also with an Indiana legislator, and a number of others in various sections of the country.

D. C. WEATHERMAN A FRIEND: The heavens let go with a miserable drizzle the morning of May 2, but just as the meeting in the Willard Hotel ended, the rain likewise ceased. And it held off all afternoon while the delegation made their visits to congressmen and senators and had a group picture taken on a spacious lawn in front of the Capitol building. No sooner had the RWDSUers completed their missions, and begun to wend their way to trains, planes and buses for the trip home, than the rain once more began to fall, as if to bless our work that day.

LOBBYING BY PROXY: As in any group of people, there are those who are hesitant at approaching a stranger—in this case an out-of-state congressman—and there are those who are audacious. One of the latter is Jerry Schaff, manager of Retail Furniture Employees Local 853 in New York. Handed the assignment of visiting a congressman from Arizona, Schaff at first considered using his best southwestern accent, but then he hit on a technique which worked. Jerry told the congressman that a group of retail workers in Arizona, having heard that RWDSU was coming to Washington to lobby for retail coverage under the minimum wage law, had given him their proxy.

Pension Plan, Wage Boosts Won By 750 at Outlet Store in R. I.

PROVIDENCE, R. I.—Employees of the Outlet Store, Rhode Island's largest department store, with 750 workers, have established a pension plan in a new contract which also provides wage increases and other benefits, New England Joint Board Pres. Joseph Honan announced.

The settlement received the unanimous and enthusiastic approval of a record turnout of 700 Local 442 members last week at the Narragansett Hotel here, at a meeting conducted by Honan, Joint Board Sec.-Treas. Nat Kushner, and Vice-Pres. George Mooney, who led the contract negotiations.

The talks ran over 10 weeks, beginning Feb. 15 and ending late last month. Until the last day of negotiations the company insisted on a flat \$2 offer and extension of the contract until a bill to raise the state minimum wage, now pending in the legislature, was acted on.

The determination of the large negotiating committee of rank and filers to win substantial wage increases as well as the pension plan prevailed, however, and agreement on a number of important contract changes was reached.

Wage Boosts

Wage increases of \$3 a week retroactive to March 7, plus \$1 a week more next March 7 were won, as well as a number of raises to correct inequities in several departments. Included were rug stock, shopping service, men's work and formal clothing sales, television and radio service, cashiers, traffic clerks, and boys' clothing sales. The inequity boosts range from \$2.50 to \$4 a week, and in the case of commission men may be more, since they won commission increases of a half of one percent.

The wage increases will bring minimum rates in the store to \$42 a week for non-selling employees and \$41 plus one percent commission in sales departments by March 7, 1957. The contract runs for three years.

The pension agreement provides retirement benefits of \$50 a month, plus social security for those retiring after 26 years' service at the age of 65, in addition to continued coverage by the company-paid hospitalization and doctor care plans, and a \$500 life insurance policy. Retirement is voluntary, and the agreement provides that if federal social security requirements are lowered to permit earlier retirement, the Outlet Store plan will lower its requirements accordingly.

Benefits for retirement after 20 years are also provided. After 20 years' service an employee may retire at 65 with a pension of \$20 a month in addition to social security, and those retiring with service of any number of years between 20 and 26 may receive an additional \$5 a month for each year up to the maximum of \$50 a month.

Honan said a number of members are eligible to retire immediately the pension plan goes into effect, which will be when the contract is signed in the next week or two. The plan will be administered by the company, with direct payments from the company to the retired members.

Other contract gains were 3 additional paid sick leave days, making a total of 8; improvement in the company-paid hospitalization plan; and reduction of a month, bringing to 3 months the period during which a customer's return of a commission item may result in a deduction from the salesman. The company also agreed that commissions on sales made by personnel other than regular department employees will be equally divided among the department people, and that the 25 percent discount to female employees on stockings will apply to 12 pairs a year instead of the previous 4 pairs.

The negotiating committee included Local 442 Pres. Grace Barney, Sec-Treas. Helen Rose, First Vice-Pres. Russell Walberg, Second Vice-Pres. Madonna Walker, Sgt.-at-Arms Wallace White, Mary Turner, Delcia Barry, Yvette Moss, Elizabeth Kellum, James Gillis, William Reid, Katherine Christopher, Catherine McCleane, Edwin Teller and Raymond McNally.

Local 338 Moving To Larger Hdqs. In New York City

NEW YORK CITY—Local 338, the union of retail food employees in this city, is moving to a new and more spacious headquarters, Pres. Julius Sum announced. The move comes mainly as a result of the establishment of a retirement plan, which will be administered at '338' headquarters, as well as the growth of the union's membership in the past few years.

The retirement plan will go into full operation early in 1957, Sum said.

To 130 W. 42 St.

It is expected that the move will be completed in a few weeks. The new address is 130 W. 42nd St., between Broadway and Sixth Ave., in a building just a few doors from the old headquarters at 152 W. 42 St.

The new quarters will permit a more efficient organization of the various operations of the local, particularly the welfare and retirement plans. Additional office personnel will be employed to handle the retirement plan's clerical work, Sum said.

Hugh McCaffrey Dies at 64

BOSTON, Mass.—Hugh P. McCaffrey, vice-president of the New England Joint Board, who helped the late RWDSU Pres. Irving Simon build Retail Shoe Local 1268 in the 'thirties, passed away on April 4 at the age of 64.

Starting as a shoe salesman in the Coward chain in New York, McCaffrey was a leading organizer of that chain in the early days of Local 1268. He later went back to his home state of Massachusetts and went to work at his trade in a Boston shoe store and joined RWDSU Local 701. In 1950 he was named to the staff of the New England Joint Board as an organizer, and soon after was elected to the vice-presidency, which he held for the past five years.

Hugh McCaffrey was best known for his jovial nature and broad sense of humor, which he put to good and practical use in organizing and helping to manage the affairs of the NEJB. Joint Board Pres. Joseph Honan expressed the sorrow of all members who knew Hugh, saying, "We will sorely miss Hugh McCaffrey, whom we all loved and were proud to work with. He was a fine human being and an equally good trade unionist."

McCaffrey died after a long illness which affected his heart. A widower, he is survived by his brother John.



NEW MEMBERS of N.Y. State Retail Wage Board are RWDSU Exec. Vice-Pres. Alex Ball, l., and Vice-Pres. Samuel Lowenthal, r., shown after swearing-in last month with State Industrial Comm. Lubin and Board Chairman Ferdinand Pecora, former Justice of the N.Y. Supreme Court. Board will act on minimum wages of 600,000 retail workers in state.

6-Day Strike at Brady Shoe Brings \$5 Increase in Phila.

PHILADELPHIA, Pa.—A six-day strike of the Jim Brady Shoe Co. workers was settled last month when the employer agreed to a two-year contract providing increases of \$5 a week, additional increases to several

employees and raises in minimum wages to \$71 after the pact's first year, Local 76 Pres. Al Brown reported.

Brown said the shop was never as solidly united as when the employer re-negged on an offer and forced the workers out on strike. He said the settlement they won was helped considerably by the fine support they got on the picket lines from other members of the local.

"The employer found himself not only up against his own employees, but

fighting the entire union," Brown declared.

The new contract provides, in addition to across-the-board raises, a reduction of 4 hours in the work week the first year, and another 4 hours the second year, so that all the employees will be working a 5-day, 40-hour week.

Also won were additional increases of \$4 a week for two employees and adjustment of an inequity in one worker's case, which will bring his wages from \$42 to \$68 a week at the end of the first year.



PRELUDE TO CONVENTION of District 65 is 3-day meeting of District's Executive Council, consisting of rank and file local officers and organizational staff. Held week-end of April 27-29, the Council acted on Convention program, put before 1,000 delegates as Record was in mails May 11-13. Shown speaking is '65' Sec.-Treas. Cleveland Robinson. At lower left is RWDSU Exec. Sec. Jack Paley, also exec. vice-pres. of '65'.

Forced to Strike, Dairymen Double Demands—and Win!

PORPSMOUTH, O.—In an eventful hour on the morning of April 28 the employees of Select Dairy, members of Local 612, accomplished the following:

At 5 a.m. they walked out on strike against the employer's flat refusal of their modest contract demands. Minutes after the strike began the employer reconsidered and offered to settle for the original demands. The workers, led by Int'l Rep. Edgar Johnson, said no. If the boss wanted a settlement now, after forcing a strike, he would have to pay double. After more consideration, and still within the first hour of the strike, the employer agreed.

The contract had expired on April 1, and all the employer would offer in negotiations was extension of the pact "as is" for 6 months. The 22 workers on April 5 authorized a strike to back up their demands for 5 cents an hour for plant employees and a \$5 monthly bonus for route salesmen.

Further negotiations, including a session with Regional Dir. Gerald Hughes sitting in, proved fruitless, and on April 28 the workers went out.

After having been forced out on strike, the employees felt that settling for the pre-strike demands would be a bargain for the employer. In no mood for granting bargains, the workers in-

sisted that he double the offer.

As a result of his agreement they won not only a 10-cent increase for the hourly paid plant employees and a \$10 monthly bonus for the routemen, but also a guaranteed 40-hour work week the year round.

\$3 and \$4 Raises Won At Borden's in Portsmouth

PORPSMOUTH, O.—Settling a wage opener, the 50 Borden Dairy workers here won wage increases of approximately \$4 a week among the route salesmen and \$3 a week in the plant, Int'l Rep. Edgar L. Johnson reported. The settlement is retroactive to Feb. 1.

The negotiations were led by Unit Chairman James Williams, with a committee including '612' Pres. Don Sylvia, Edmond Mays, Billy Sturgil, Donald Skelton, Wilbur Bassler and Robert Brown, with Johnson.

'379' Fights Catering Company Try To Fire Unit Chairman in Columbus

COLUMBUS, O.—There will be no singling out of active union members as targets for anti-union activity by

2 Meat Unions' Merger Hits Snag

CHICAGO, (PA)—The merger of the Amalgamated Meat Cutters and the United Packinghouse Workers, scheduled for June, seems almost certain to be postponed. The Meat Cutters' executive board, meeting in Seattle recently, made two new proposals as a condition of unity which have not yet been accepted by the Packinghouse Workers. These new conditions are:

1. Every staff member of the merged union sign a non-communist affidavit;
2. Meat Cutters' representation on the executive board be increased by six members to 27. Packinghouse would have 12.

In an interview with Labor's Daily, UPWA President Ralph Helstein said: "The new demands came after we already reached an agreement. Even if my union agrees to these, there could be no assurances that further changes wouldn't be sought."

Girard, Pa. Toy Workers Dig Deep for Injured Sister Member

GIRARD, Pa.—A young mother lies in a hospital bed today. She will be there for some months to come as the result of a terrible auto accident which killed her infant son and seriously injured her husband as well as herself last November. Until last month Mrs. Mary Talso, who is just 21, was alone, but then her fellow RWDSU members in Local 850 learned about her plight and immediately decided to help out.

Under the leadership of Local 850 Pres. Joseph Stasenko, the 600 employees of the Girard Mfg. Co. have won agreement from the company to make payroll deductions from the weekly earnings of those who want to pitch in to help the Talso family meet the enormous medical expenses which are piling up. They've taken as their special responsibility the payment of a special nurse required by Mary Talso to care for her during the night.

The fund is being deposited in a local bank and is under the supervision of an attorney, Kenneth Fillinger.

Both Mary and her husband, 22 year-old Richard, who has recovered from his injuries, worked at the Girard Mfg. plant,

which is a subsidiary of the giant Louis Marx toy company, largest toy firm in the world. Richard has been working at another job during the seasonal lay-off, but he expects to be called back to his regular job at the toy plant soon.

The couple's car went out of control and crashed into a parked truck last November with the result that Mary's skull was fractured and her brain was damaged. She was in a semi-conscious state for two months.

The doctors are uncertain as to how long Mary will have to stay at the Hamot Hospital in Girard, but now that her union has concerned itself with her situation, she is comforted both by the visits of her fellow members and the knowledge that at least part of the financial burden is being lifted from the young family's shoulders.

The Midwest

10c Hike, Other Gains At Piqua, O. Toy Plant

PIQUA, O.—A host of gains was won by the members of Local 250 working at the Piqua Products toy plant in a new contract which they unanimously ratified on April 29, Int'l Rep. Charles Hess reported.

Wage rates were boosted by a 10-cent hourly increase across the board for the employees, who number between 300 and 500, depending on the season. The plant is a subsidiary of Wyandotte Toys, one of the nation's largest toy firms, whose headquarters plant in Michigan is also organized in RWDSU.

Among other improvements made in the contract, which will run until May 1, 1957, are a 5-cent hike in the regular rate when a worker goes on a new operation; inequity wage boosts ranging from 1 to 5 cents an hour; a classification increase for die makers bringing their rate from \$2.07 to \$2.35 an hour; another increase in apprentice rates bringing the total over the past month to 20 cents more an hour, and 10-cent boosts to lithograph press operators, making their top rate \$3 an hour.

Vacations were improved to provide 3 weeks after 10 years on the job, 3 days' funeral leave was won, and the health plan was improved, with \$10 daily hospitalization benefits instead of \$8, and increased surgical benefits.

Hess said the work force in the plant will probably go to about 800 in the next month or so, since the company is consolidating its plants in Michigan and Martin's Ferry, O. into the one at Piqua.

He said that talks between the union and the company have resulted in agreement that those coming from the other plants would bring their seniority with them. This will have immediate benefits to a number of old timers in the other plants, who will be able to enjoy a third week's vacation as a result of the newly improved vacation schedule.

Members of the negotiating committee included Local 250 Pres. Charles Culver, Vice-Pres. Zeno Norris, Chief Steward Barbara Black, Rose Culver, Della Rowell, Sec.-Treas. Georgia Finnarn, Margie Siepel and Carl Francis, with Int'l Rep. Hess.

Key Demands Won At Wheeling Dairy

WHEELING, W. Va.—The plant and sales employees of Garvin's Dairy won agreement from the company on such key demands as the union shop, a better grievance procedure and reduction of the trial period, in addition to wage and other gains in a new contract, Int'l Rep. Charles Hess said. The company employs 60 in 3 scattered plants.

The new contract provides wage increases of 10 cents an hour for plant employees, plus classification boosts ranging from 5 to 10 cents additional.

Wholesale routemen won one-half percent increase in commissions, making a total of 8 percent. Monthly draw for salesmen was increased from \$80 to \$125. Better vacations were won, providing 2½ weeks after 10 years' service and 3 weeks after 15 years on the job. Five employees will enjoy the longer vacations this summer, Hess said.

The contract is retroactive to April 7, and expires June 1, 1957. The negotiating committee was headed by Hess and included Stewards Herb Yoho, Gene Dakan, Guy Johnson, Raymond Johnson, Roy West and Wade Kesseiring.

17c Gains in Two Years

CINCINNATI, O.—A wage opener was concluded between Local 258 and Institutional Industries Inc. with gains of 12 cents an hour for the 70 employees. The workers approved the settlement on May 1.

With the newly won increase the Local 258 members have gained a total of 17 cents an hour since the two-year contract was negotiated a year ago. They won 5 cents then. The contract with the hospital and sick room supplies firm has one year to run.

The negotiating committee consisted of '258' Pres. Sam Stacey, Vice-Pres. Art Throescher, Financial Sec. Bob Brand, Chief Steward Alonzo Bryant, Louis Nagle and Int'l Rep. Charles Hess.



GOOD MEDICINE is visit to Mary Talso by friends and officers of Local 850, bearing flowering plant. They are, l. to r., Sgt-at-Arms Nina Bogart, Chief Steward Helen Stuck, Financial Sec. Virginia Hanrahan.



NEGOTIATING COMMITTEE of Hopkinsville Milling Co., members of RWDSU Local 195, Hopkinsville, Ky., who negotiated contract providing wage gains of 8 cents an hour and other benefits. Seated, l.-r., Sec.-Treas. John T. Fruitt, Pres. Cardie Wells, Bus. Agent James Pate. Standing, l.-r., Frank Shipp, Local 150 Vice-Pres. John Johnson, Steward Sexton Brewer.

1500 Win Fine New Contract At Planters Peanut Co. in Va.

SUFFOLK, Va.—Local 26 has won a fine new contract at the big Planter's Peanut plant in this city, known as the peanut capital of the world. The new pact, covering some 1,500 Planter's employees, provides wage increases of 6 cents an hour to all semi-skilled and skilled workers and 4 cents an hour to unskilled employees.

The company's first offer of 2 cents an

hour was decisively rejected by the workers, and after further discussion between the parties management increased its offer to the accepted figure. In addition to the wages, the union won agreement that the company would look within the plant to fill jobs of machine operators instead of going outside to hire, as was the practice before.

During the negotiations many of the white workers in the plant signed up in Local 26, pointing out that they realize their best hope of making gains on the job is through the union. Leaders of the local said the growing white membership was largely responsible for the victory that the contract settlement represents.

The negotiating committee was led by Local 26 Pres. Leroy Harris and Int'l Rep. Irving Lebold. Other committee members were Theodocia Davis, Naomi Pope, John Ward, Jr., Stanley Pierce, Lee R. Ray, Linwood Monds, Robert Hughes, Charlie Holloway, Lock J. Parker and Alfred Bailey.

—Reported by Lock Parker.

Hill Grocery Drive Progressing In Ala. Despite Employer Moves

BIRMINGHAM, Ala.—Attempts by the Hill Grocery Co. management to discourage its employees from joining RWDSU Local 261 have met with opposite results, Regional Dir. Frank Parker reported. The company's meetings with the workers, where speeches are made telling how the company will "take care of its employees," have only confirmed the strength of the union in the grocery warehouse, he said.

As a result, the majority already signed up is being daily increased. The firm, which employs about 110 workers, has been a target of the union for the past 10 years, Parker said. It is the only major unorganized warehouse in this city, and it services a chain of groceries throughout the state of Alabama comparable in size to the A & P in this state.

Meanwhile, negotiations with the big four bakeries here were scheduled to resume this month. The joint talks affect some 500 members of Bakery Local 441 in the National Biscuit Co., Ward Baking Co., McGough Bakery and American Baking Co. They began April 18. Parker said the pattern achieved in these

talks would most likely be sought by other RWDSU bakery workers, who have scheduled negotiations to begin after the big four talks are concluded.

These include the American Baking Co. plant in Gadsden, to be followed by Hardin's Bakery in Tuscaloosa and the smaller independents in this city, such as Home Baking Co. and Bremmer Biscuit.

Elsewhere in Birmingham, Parker reported good progress in negotiations for a first RWDSU contract at the warehouse of Associated Groceries of Alabama. The workers in this shop joined Local 261 last month, voting unanimously for the union after an organizing campaign led by Int'l Rep. Bill Langston. Committee members are headed by Chairman James Bolden and Langston. Most issues have been agreed upon, Parker said, with wages the remaining point under discussion.

Seven-Plant Strike Looming At Consolidated Bakery Co.

TORONTO, Ont.—Last ditch negotiations between Local 461 and the big Consolidated Bakeries Co. began last week, as The Record went to press, in an attempt to avoid a strike of the 350 workers in seven plants of the company and its two subsidiaries, '461' Dir. Hugh Buchanan reported.

Nearly unanimous "ayes" for a strike if necessary have been registered by all the employees as unit after unit in various cities in the province took strike authorization votes during the past week or two. Following these actions the company indicated to the union that it was prepared to reopen talks that had been stalled for months, and Buchanan said it was hoped the discussions would make a strike unnecessary by coming up with a satisfactory settlement.

Negotiations begun more than 15 months ago failed to produce an offer from the company, which balked at province-wide bargaining. The dispute then went to conciliation, as required by law, and the long series of conciliation hearings in each of the seven plants began in June, 1955. They ended just last March with no satisfactory recommendations for settlement.

The Consolidated firm includes Wonder Bakeries, with plants in Windsor, London, Hamilton, Toronto and Peterborough, Mammy's Bread in Galt, and Trent Valley Baking in Orillia.

Meanwhile, Local 461 has made progress in organizing three unorganized bakeries, Buchanan said. Union leaders in this area have said the recent merger of the two major Canadian labor bodies into the million-member Canadian Labor Congress is responsible for a new enthusiasm for unions on the part of many unorganized workers, and the quick organization of three bakeries by Local 461 seems to bear this out.

The shops are two Weston plants in Guelph and Stratford, whose employees were approached by Weston workers in Local 461, and MacHutchion's in Brantford. Applications for certification have been made for all three plants. Contact with MacHutchion's was made through leaders of the International Woodworkers Union.

Wage Boosts Won At Underwood Co.

WINNIPEG, Man.—A new contract with Underwood Typewriter Company's service operation here has brought the workers wage boosts ranging from \$1 to \$3 a week, retroactive to Jan. 1, plus bonuses of \$2 to \$3 a week and additional premium pay to servicemen totaling at least \$3 more per month.

Other gains included the furnishing of work clothing to servicemen by the company, training on company time for junior mechanics, and improvements in servicemen's car allowances.

The negotiations for Local 560 were conducted by G. Chorney, F. Foster, R. H. Pritchard and Int'l Rep. Chris Schubert.

CLC Committees to Explore Further Labor Mergers

TORONTO (CPA)—In a move to speed the merger of other labor organizations with the newly-formed Canadian Labor Congress, the first meeting of the CLC executive council named two committees to liaise with Manitoba and Quebec groups seeking admission to the 1,018,000-member CLC.

Pres. Claude Jodoin, Exec. Vice-Pres. Gordon Cushing, Sec.-Treas. Donald MacDonald and the three Congress vice-presidents from Quebec—George Schollié, Huguette Plamondon and Roger Provost—were appointed as a committee to work with leaders of the 100,000-member Canadian and Catholic Confederation of Labor on terms of merger.

Two Ontario Bakeries Settle

TORONTO, Ont.—Two settlements and several contracts in various stages of progress were reported by Local 461, the union of bakery and confectionery workers in Ontario.

The Kitchener plant of Weston Bakery, employing about 100 workers, settled with a two-year contract providing 6 cents an hour in wage increases for plant employees the first year plus a reduction in hours from 45 to 43 per week, night shift premium pay, jury duty pay and improved vacations. The salesmen won a \$55 weekly guarantee, an additional paid holiday and improved waste allowance.

The negotiating committee consisted of A. Dunn, L. Coyle and H. Dufton for the plant, and for sales, C. Dahmer, V. Spurrell and L. Auger. Local 461 Dir. Hugh Buchanan assisted the committee. Buchanan said a similar agreement was concluded with the Weston plant in Toronto. The committee members there were R. Baird, D. Ridsill, J. Waldeck, C. Roberts and M. Capano.

In Toronto, two negotiating sessions with the Canada Bread Co. have brought forth no offer and the parties have applied for conciliation.



RWDSU DELEGATES to Merger Convention held April 23-27th in Toronto attend dinner sponsored by Ontario Locals. Seated at table, l.-r., G. C. Emery, Sec.-Treas. Al Heaps, Mrs. C. H. Millard, C. H. Millard, Mrs. David Archer, David Archer, Jack Piper, Pres. Max Greenberg, Mrs. J. Piper, Mrs. G. Barlow, G. Barlow, Exec.-Sec. Jack Paley.

feature Section

How Best To Use The Wealth Of America



by
**ADLAI
STEVENSON**

From time to time as the '56 election campaign gets hotter, The Record will present the views of candidates on the various issues. Here are the beliefs of an outstanding candidate for the Democratic nomination.

I'm afraid the Republican measure of prosperity is just the making of money. If what they call the gross national product goes up, they feel we're making progress.

There's a lot more to it than this. In fact, I think that when we're talking about our progress as a nation it's *how we use our money* that counts almost more than how rapidly we're making it. The important thing is whether we are getting the benefits of this growing national income into people's lives. And it's on this front that I think we've got to do a lot more than we have been doing.

Take, for example, the matter of providing for old age. It just seems to me that in the richest nation in the world things ought to work out so that after a person has finished his regular life's work he can enter upon a time of not only security but dignity and beauty.

Yet the cold hard figures are—and I was shocked to learn them—that among the 14 million people in this country over 65 years of age today, the average income for a man and his wife is only \$1,500. Their average savings in liquid resources are less than \$500.

This isn't right. There isn't any need or good reason why in America today, in the richest, noblest land in the world, those who have given the most should have the least.

Retirement Benefits for Disabled

A bill introduced in the Senate by Democrat Richard Newberger would improve the Social Security Act by lowering the retirement age for women. And a bill to lower the retirement age for women to 62 passed the House of Representatives overwhelming. But now the Eisenhower Administration has come out against this humanitarian bill.

And at the same time President Eisenhower's Administration also came out against a provision that an employee of 50 or 60 can get his retirement benefits right away if he's totally and permanently disabled, instead of having to wait 15 more years till he's 65, as he does now.

In short, an administration which has given billions of dollars in tax benefits to large corporations and corporate stockholders dentes

retirement benefits to a man of 50 who has worked for his living, paid his Social Security tax, and now, while he still has a family to support, becomes totally disabled.

These changes in the Social Security Act should be made, they should be made now, and they will be made if I have anything to do with it.

A number of other things ought to be done to improve Social Security and other programs for old people. We are muddling along with the solutions of 20 years ago. And that just isn't good enough.

In the field of health, too, we are standing still.

'Pennywise' Policies of GOP

We know that all-out research for arteriosclerosis and arthritis and mental illness and heart disease and cancer would speed up tremendously our finding out the answer to these terrible mysteries. It is wrong—awfully wrong—that the Government is spending less on cancer research than on research in hoof and mouth disease. The pennywise policies of the present administration so far as medical research is concerned are a shameful cost of what they call a businessman's government.

Roughly a million American families will have to spend over half their income this year for medical care. In over 500,000 cases, catastrophic accident or illness will consume the entire family income. And today 8 million American families are in debt for medical care, with much of this borrowing at high interest rates from personal finance companies. In too many American homes a parent at some time or other looks down at a sick child, knows that something should be done and that there just isn't the money to do it.

It is encouraging that three out of every five people in this country are now enrolled in voluntary, private prepayment insurance programs which cover health. But all too often their coverage is inadequate. For example, the research and education director of the International Woodworkers of America has testified that although his union made every effort to have all its workers covered by health insurance, workers in the lumber industry in

Oregon had to pay more than a million dollars in 1952 out of their own pockets for medical bills not covered by health insurance.

Furthermore, private health insurance covers mostly middle and high income families, and all too few of the low income families who need it most.

I believe that these private insurance programs can be developed further so they will be attractive and within the reach of an even greater percentage of our people. I urge further consideration of governmental programs to provide long term, low interest rate loans to groups, which are organizing prepayment insurance plans, and perhaps other financial assistance to help to cover the initial costs of setting up such plans.

It is time, too, that we really do something about the serious shortage of doctors. We ought to expand immediately Federal assistance to medical, dental and nursing schools. And we must also speed up our hospital construction program, with particular emphasis on building more hospitals for chronic diseases.

I know the complaints of the businessman's government now in Washington. This all costs too much, they say, adding that it isn't really the Government's business anyway.

Well, I say to you one thing this great nation can't afford is to let people die or suffer when it could be prevented. We must never put a price tag on health—or on life itself.

'The Things in Which I Believe'

I would not be worthy of your respect and your vote this year if I did not at least suggest some of the things I mean to work for, to speak for, yes, and to fight for this year and every year, the things in which I deeply believe—the right of a man to a job, the right of a man to be treated as a full equal by his fellow men, the right to think as he pleases, the right to send his children to a good school, to live in a decent house, to enjoy the great outdoors, to farm with protection against price collapses, to go through life unhaunted by fear of catastrophic illness, and to bring up his children in a better world than he himself was born into, a more abundant world, and a world at peace.

letters to the editor:

'Congratulations' on Washington Rally

To the Editor:

This is to express the opinion of the delegates of Local 377, United Service Employees, on the fine minimum wage mobilization sponsored by our International union May 2 in Washington D. C. From the time we left New York the enthusiasm and behavior shown by the various delegates from the different Locals who made up the New York contingent was both thrilling and gratifying. Needless to say, we were all out for one purpose—attempting to put over minimum wage coverage for our industry.

May I at this time extend congratulations to our President, Max Greenberg, and his officers who helped to put this expedition over.

This also expresses the opinion of our Chairman, Peter Busch of our Local 377, and Paul Kinsella, Kenneth Adams and Joe Klugerman who were delegates on our trip to Washington.

JULES JASPER,
New York City.

Minimum Wage Job Still Ahead

To the Editor:

Last Wednesday morning, May 2, a special train chartered by the RWDSU carried some 500 union delegates from New York City to join other delegates from locals across the country in Washington, D.C. We were there for the purpose of convincing our Congressmen of the need to extend the federal \$1 minimum wage law to include the hitherto exempt retail employees.

It was a memorable trip. The people responsible for the preparations of this project deserve a vote of thanks for their efficient handling of all details. But we should all be reminded that our trip was merely the first move to get the ball rolling. It is imperative that all of us write to our Congressmen urging them to support extension of coverage under the \$1 minimum wage to the retail field.

BERNARD SILVERMAN
New York City

Hits Aspersions on 'Record' and Union

To the Editor:

In answer to the letter to the Editor published in the April 29th issue of *The Record*, sent in by Harlow B. George of Attleboro, Mass., I want to state that Mr. George expressed his own viewpoint, and not the viewpoint of the members of his local or any other local in New England. The membership in New England and myself are proud of our International Union's newspaper, which has developed into one of the best labor papers in the country. We find that it is both informative and constructive in its approach, and has kept free of demagogery and fact twisting, which are too often used by the public press against labor.

How any individual can tie up *The Record* even remotely with the *Daily Worker* is beyond me, and beyond our membership and local officers in New England. On this point I firmly believe that Mr. George owes an apology to the staff members of *The Record*, the International officers, and the members, since the accusation he makes casts an aspersion on all of us. Our International, the RWDSU, as everyone knows, is dedicated to democracy and opposed to communism, and of course *The Record* reflects that attitude.

If Mr. George wants to agree with the well-known labor hater, Fulton Lewis Jr., and disagree with *The Record*, that is his privilege as an individual, but it is certainly not the opinion of the membership or myself in New England. To Mr. George I say, "Don't practice the very essence of dictatorship which you profess to hate by calling names and accusing *The Record* or anyone else of doing the work of the *Daily Worker* because they recognize their rights as Americans to disagree with a person like Fulton Lewis Jr.

THOMAS J. LEONE, Regional Director
New England Area, RWDSU

(Editor's Note: The letter above is one of many received by *The Record* which disagreed with Harlow B. George's letter in the April 29 issue.)

Union Paper to Reprint Murrow Interview

To the Editor:

Today I had the opportunity of reading through the pages of the April 1st edition of *The Record* and was impressed with the wonderful job Mr. Stephens did on the exclusive interview with Edward R. Murrow.

I would like very much to publish this interview in the pages of the International Woodworker, newspaper of the International Woodworkers, AFL-CIO, with full credit to *The Record* and the writer, as I think it is something that should be widely disseminated to the American men and women.

BRUCE A. BISHOP, Editor
International Woodworker
Portland, Oregon.

(Editor's Note: Newspapers of many AFL-CIO unions have reprinted articles from *The Record* ever since the paper began publishing in June, 1954. In recent weeks, reprints of articles from *The Record* have appeared in newspapers of the Electrical Workers Union, the American Federation of Teachers, the Transport Workers, and in the AFL-CIO News.)

'The Country Club Will Keep Us Poor'

MADISON (PA)—Few of the workers at the Forsberg Paper Box Co. here had ever been in the plush Maple Bluff Country Club, but a number of them were treated to a "big evening" there recently by company officials. They were workers who were wavering on the NLRB vote the next day between the AFL-CIO Paperworkers and no union.

The next day unionists paraded around with signs reading: "The Forsberg Tale's Been Told Before—The Country Club Will Keep Us Poor." It did the trick. The union won the vote by 2 to 1.

MOVIES

in
review

JUBAL—★★

With pictures like "High Noon" and "Shane," it was proven that Westerns need not have cowboys and Indians chasing each other over the screen. Once again this point is clearly made in *Jubal*, a new Columbia release.

No ordinary tale of a cowboy with his trusty horse and guns, *Jubal* tells the story of four people caught in a web of jealousy. Cattle ranch owner Ernest Borgnine, a simple and jovial man, is well liked by everyone in the territory except his young wife, who is attracted more to the hired hands. She has a fling with one of them, a coarse and spiteful man (Rod Steiger), then switches her affections to Jubal (Glenn Ford), the handsome stranger who Borgnine hires and makes his foreman. Ford holds her at arm's length but Steiger, nonetheless, is enraged and takes his revenge by fanning Borgnine's suspicions about his wife and Jubal. The ironic climax comes when the two "good guys"—Borgnine and Ford—shoot it out, while the villain stands by and enjoys the damage.

Set in Wyoming, this film has some stunning Technicolor shots of vast cattle ranges and snow-capped Rockies. And three of Hollywood's finest young actors—Borgnine, Ford and Steiger—grace the screen with superb performances. The whole screenplay has an easy, homesy ring, with the musical score helping to suggest the saga of the Old West. Something different in the way of a Western, *Jubal* is an unusually good movie.

ROSEMARIE DA SILVA

HILDA CRANE—★

Hilda Crane, taken from the original stage play by Samson Raphaelson, could very well have been called "Hilda Faces Life", or "Our Gal Hilda". It is carved out of pure soap.

The picture opens as Hilda (Jean Simmons) returns to her home town broken-hearted and disillusioned after two failures in marriage and various jobs. Now she's back home with nothing to show for it but a mink coat. Her mother wants her to forget the past, be sensible and marry Guy Madison, rich young builder who loved her years before when he was poor. But Guy's mother feels Hilda is not good enough for her son and sets out to ruin Hilda's reputation. No wonder Hilda takes an overdose of sleeping pills and starts hitting the bottle.

A lot of this sort of thing goes a long way towards making "Hilda Crane" one of the less distinguished offerings of Hollywood. There is no denying that Jean Simmons is a beauty who could wrap men around her finger, but we prefer her in something more wholesome. As for the other performers: Judith Evelyn, Guy Madison, Jean Pierre Aumont and Evelyn Varden—they all behave like artificial characters in a CinemaScope soap opera, which this is. This Twentieth Century-Fox release could use a bath.

— HELEN SCALA

RECORD MOVIE RATING

★★★	★★★	★★
Alexander the Great	Jubal	Hilda Crane
Richard III	Man in the Gray Flannel Suit	Godzilla, King of the Monsters
Golden Demon	Lovers and Lollipops	The Birds and the Bees
Oklahoma	The Man Who Never Was	My Seven Little Sins
Picnic	Meet Me In Las Vegas	Miracle in the Rain
	The Swan	Forbidden Planet
	A Kid for Two	Tribute to a Bad Man
	Farthings	Wetbacks
		Star of India



Business Covers Up Its Bigness With Whispers Against Labor

The recent labor merger gave newspapers a new criticism: "labor bigness"—a thinly-veiled pretext to continue sniping at unions in general. Strangely missing are any stories critical of the big business associations in this country. These associations—3,000 in all areas of commerce—maintain a powerful influence over much of what you eat, drink, wear and use. You are their game, their victim, and unless you belong to a trade union you stand alone.

The American workingman has nothing to fear from "labor bigness"—this merely means more people like himself are uniting for a better way of life. The big worry is whether unions can keep pace against the ever-growing giant associations. Here are the names and policies of a few of the big associations lined up against you.

copies" of booklets for distribution to schools, as well as issuing news releases "educational advertising," and "publication of booklets and background memoranda for the use of editorial writers, columnists, radio commentators and the like. . ." How does this work in practice? For example, if the major steel companies decide this year to oppose the steel union's contract demands, all this machinery is available to provide an unceasing flow of pro-industry arguments for newspapers, radio and television stations, schools, members of Congress and the like.

AMERICAN MEAT PACKERS INSTITUTE • NATIONAL DAIRY COUNCIL. Both were influential in putting an end to wartime price controls on the food basket. The Dairy Council was successful for years in keeping colored margarine out of circulation in many states because it sold far more cheaply than butter.

NATIONAL ASSN. OF REAL ESTATE BOARDS and various "Fair Rent" leagues and landlord groups conduct an incessant campaign against Federal aid to housing and helped knock the props out from under rent control laws.

ELECTRIC LIGHT AND POWER COMPANIES • EDISON ELECTRIC INSTITUTE have long fought public power projects such as TVA and opposed Government regulation of utilities.

AMERICAN PETROLEUM INSTITUTE • OIL INDUSTRY INFORMATION COMMITTEE and other oil industry groups fought for the release of tideland oil lands. Of course, the recent natural gas bill battle in Congress was set off by the activities of gas and oil industry groups.

AMERICAN NEWSPAPER PUBLISHERS ASSN. has virtually made a career out of fighting unions in the newspaper field. One of its pet projects has been to deny minimum wage and union coverage for newsboys on the ground that they are "independent contractors."

FAIR TRADE COUNCILS and committees in various industries promoted the fair trade laws which compelled all retailers to sell products at fixed high list prices and made price discounting a violation of the laws.

AMERICAN MEDICAL ASSN. is almost legendary in power. It has single-handedly defeated any and every effort to provide some form of low-cost medical care for workers and other low income groups, even though these programs have been endorsed by both Democratic and Republican presidents. The AMA is undoubtedly a driving force in the campaign to close the Public Health Service hospitals. Through its state and county medical societies it has time and again restricted and blocked low-cost group medical practice and clinic services. In one section of New Jersey recently, the medical society decided it was against free Salk polio shots for children. Such is its power over doctors that only two physicians in the whole country were bold enough to defy the edict. The AMA member groups have power to deny doctors access to hospitals and facilities.

AMERICAN BAR ASSN. is similarly influential because it can virtually decide whether or not a lawyer can practice. Since so many members of Congress, state legislatures, administrators, judges and government officials are ABA members, the Bar Association enjoys an influence which is envied by all other groups. Recently a local bar association in California was able to keep a lawyer from practicing his profession because he had not paid his dues to the ABA.

By SIDNEY MARGOLIUS
Consumer Expert for The Record

Car owners who know the score about present octane ratings of gas can save a large part of their gasoline costs by using the lower-priced regular grade. This department has obtained some revealing data on present octane ratings of car fuel. They indicate that for most popular-price cars now on the road, and even some 1956 models, regular gas today should be satisfactory, and in fact is the equivalent in octane rating of premium gasoline of a few years ago.

This table shows how the average rating of gasoline has increased in recent years:

1950	1953	1955	1956
Regular 86.1	87.9	91	91.4
Premium 92	93	97	97.2

The chief factor, though not the only one, in determining whether your car probably needs regular or premium gas is its compression ratio. If you don't know the compression ratio for your model and year, a dealer in your make can look it up for you.

One oil company's engineers estimate that an engine with compression ratio of 8 to 1 requires 92-octane gas; of 9 to 1, 95 and of 10 to 1, 98. Most of the popular price cars built before 1956 have compression ratios of less than 8 to 1, and thus can use

Also, some of the regular-grade gasolines on the market are higher in octane rating than others. It pays to try out different brands of regular grade to see if you can observe any difference in mileage per gallon, and also in performance when accelerating and on hills. Or if you prefer highest premium gas, it would pay to experiment with different brands here, too. A few of the premium gasolines are now as high as 99-octane rating. (Octane ratings of gasoline are generally lower in the Rocky Mountains area, because of the altitude, and slightly lower in the central states, than those quoted here).

As important as the grade of gas in car economy, are the mechanical condition of your car and the way you drive. Experts say that improper carburetor adjustment or faulty timing are the most frequent reasons why motorists don't get full potential mileage from gas. Other faulty components that often waste gas are improperly adjusted choke; clogged muffler, as is often found on older cars; bent tail pipe; burned distributor points; clogged air cleaner, and worn, dirty or improperly-gapped spark plugs (old plugs drink up a lot of gas).

Car owners also often postpone chassis lubrication because they don't hear any squeaks. But postponing grease jobs wastes gas as well as increasing body and engine wear, because the power required



today's regular gas. Among the '56 cars the popular sixes have compression ratios ranging from 7.4 to 1, to a top of 8 to 1. Thus most of these cars can be considered candidates for regular gas. Only a few 1956 eight-cylinder cars, however, have compression ratios of 8 to 1 or less, and some of the high-priced makes now go up to 10 to 1.

High-compression engines deliver maximum power, and, theoretically at least, greatest economy, if high-octane fuel is used. High-octane or premium gas burns more slowly and evenly. If the gas is too low in octane rating, the intense heat at which a high-compression engine ignites the fuel mixture may cause the engine to knock, and also waste gas. For example, gas consumption of an engine of 10 to 1 compression will be 12 per cent more economical with 98-octane gas than with 92. That's why the octane rating of gas has been increased in recent years as the compression ratio of car engines has been stepped up.

But the fact is, the premium gas now on the market is really engineered for the bigger, more powerful cars, and the average owner may not need it. And since the price spread between regular and premium grades has widened to the point where it is now often three to five cents, the regular grade has become a real money-saver.

to overcome friction reduces power at the rear wheels.

Thus a spring servicing and tuneup can pay for itself just in gas savings in the summer driving season ahead.

Under-inflated tires also waste gas, as well as shorten the life of the tires themselves.

In handling your car, you'll save gasoline dollars by driving at moderate speeds and upshifting promptly. Lower gears should be used only for getting the car rolling. If you jack-rabbit up to 20 mph in low gear, you use 35 per cent more gas than high gear consumes at 20 mph.

One problem is the heavy use of gas in today's crowded city traffic. One authority estimates that by planning your driving in traffic to judge the timing of the lights and the speed of cars nearby you can save up to 60 per cent of the gas often consumed in city driving. If you do mostly city driving, you may also be able to save gas by getting so-called "hot" plugs. Plugs come in three different heat ranges. For normal driving with an engine in good condition, "original-equipment" type plugs are most satisfactory, but for city driving "hot" plugs are preferable, while drivers who make frequent long trips at high speeds should use "cold" plugs.

Chicken a New Way: 'Orange Fried'

By NANCY PRATT

Chicken is a particularly popular spring and summer choice because it's good so many ways—hot or cold; fried, broiled, boiled; in salads and sandwiches; and as leftovers easily blended into soups and casserole. Here are some variations on the traditional fried chicken which may strike an extra appealing note for your family.

One is orange-fried chicken. To make it, prepare chickens for frying as you would normally, by coating with flour, but add some grated orange rind to the flour mixture. Brown the chicken slowly in medium hot fat in the frying pan for about 15 minutes or until the chicken is lightly browned.

After the chicken is done, remove it to a warm platter and prepare gravy. Again add orange juice to your regular gravy recipe. Also add a dash of ground ginger and all-spice to bring out the pungent orange flavor.

Baked chicken with cheese is another variation. Here you place the chicken in a well greased baking dish, sprinkle some flour over it, and bake about 30 minutes. Then cover with commercially prepared sour cream and grated cheese, and bake it another 30 minutes. Serve over broccoli or asparagus spears.

To put an extra bit of flavor in plain broiled chicken, rub it with lemon juice before broiling. Then reduce the heat and add a little orange juice for moisture. Cook for another 15 or 20 minutes. You may want to uncover the chicken for the last 10 minutes for crisp skin.

Tarragon and thyme are two herbs that also go particularly well with chicken.

★ ★ ★

If you're a home gardener, this is the time of year when you may be sowing seeds of hardy vegetables and flowers, and sprucing up your yard, removing dandelions and other weeds.

Composting, instead of burning leaves, is good advice for safety as well as for the fertilizer value of the compost heap. If you do plan to burn off underbrush, check first with your fire department, for if there have been a few days of warm drying winds, conditions may be too ripe for accidental fires.

The fire department will tell you when weather conditions are the safest for burning. Remember, too, that burning leaves or grass destroys the valuable nutritive elements which the soil needs. If possible, prepare a compost heap.

Wait A Second

By JANE GOODSELL

Every evening, hundreds of thousands of people visit other people in their homes. Eventually it becomes necessary for them to depart and return to their own homes.

This act, at first glance, seems a very simple one. It is necessary merely to arise from your chair, announce that you must go, get your coat, thank your host and hostess and disappear into the night.

This example is pure fiction. As far as I know, nobody has ever departed in such fashion. In real life, getting out of other people's houses is more difficult than breaking out of prison.

The first move is usually made around 10:30 or 11 o'clock when one of the guests suggests tentatively that he ought to be going. Since no food has been served yet, the guest has no real intention of leaving. The purpose of his maneuver is to permit the hostess to serve refreshments without seeming to hurry her guests. This move is a false start and doesn't really count.

Eyebrows Waggle

Actual departure begins some time later when husbands and wives start wagging their eyebrows to signal each other that they'd better be going. This grimacing goes on until someone—usually a lady—takes the initiative by glancing at her watch and shrieking that she had no idea it was so late.

The other guests murmur that they must be going, too. The host and hostess politely insist that it is still the shank of the evening, and about half an hour is taken up with each couple, in turn, explaining why they must get up early the next morning.

This accomplished, one of the guests rises and the others follow suit. Wraps are procured, and everybody moves into the front hall where the guests don hats, coats, mufflers and gloves.

As if by magic, conversation suddenly bursts into full flower. This occurs even after an evening during which the conversation was in constant danger of total collapse. People who have been brooding in self-centered silence suddenly become animated. Mutual friends are discovered, recipes are exchanged, confidences are whispered and luncheon meetings arranged.

"Wait A Minute"

From time to time a husband or wife reaches a conversational lull, and tries to propel his (or her) partner out the door. The partner, eagerly discussing the new model cars or a wonderful little dressmaker, shakes off the hand with an impatient request to "wait a minute."

During the "minute" the first partner strikes up another discussion, and the entire scene is replayed with the characters in reverse roles. This alternate tugging and brushing-off of hands can go on for an hour, and often does.

People have been known to develop severe colds and fallen arches from standing around other people's front doors with their coats on.

Thousands of gallons of fuel are lost each year between the time the front door is opened and the last guest takes his leave.

I have been wondering if the Bureau of Missing Persons shouldn't look into this situation. Maybe some of the people they have been unable to locate are still mousing around other people's hallways, wondering how to make a getaway.

By BERT SEIDMAN

Economist, Dept. of Research, AFL-CIO

THE annual numbers game has started on Capitol Hill; the public housing numbers game.

The stakes are high. If Congress authorizes the right number of public housing units, hundreds of thousands of low-income families will have a chance to move from crumbling hovels and dilapidated tenements into decent living quarters.

When Congress authorized the present public housing program in 1949, it was thought that the signal had been given for construction of 810,000 low-rent public housing units over a six-year period, or an average of 135,000 units a year.

It is worthwhile recalling that the necessary Republican votes to assure the bi-partisan public housing victory in 1949 might never have been obtained without the vigorous efforts of the late Sen. Robert A. Taft.

Taft Favored Public Housing

Certainly no liberal on most issues, Taft believed that about 10 percent of the nation's annual housing construction should be allocated to low-rent public housing for low-income families. Taft had come to recognize what organized labor had known for many years—that public housing offers the only feasible way of assuring low-income families the opportunity to obtain decent housing.

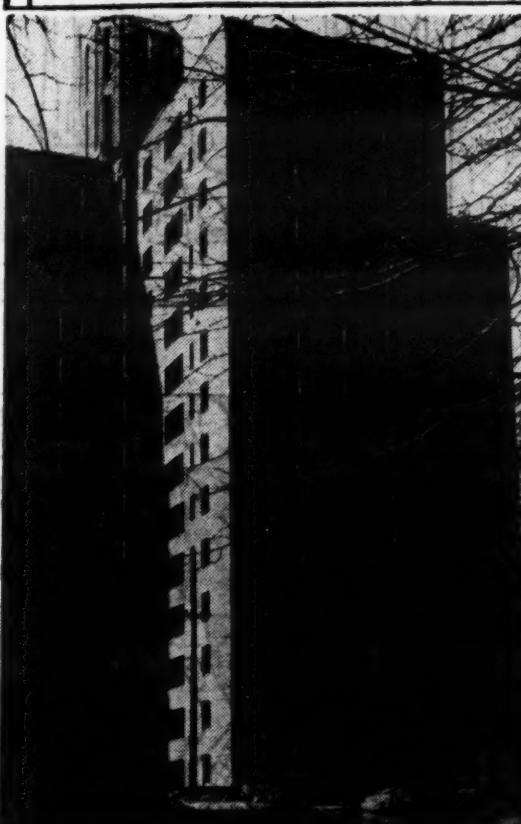
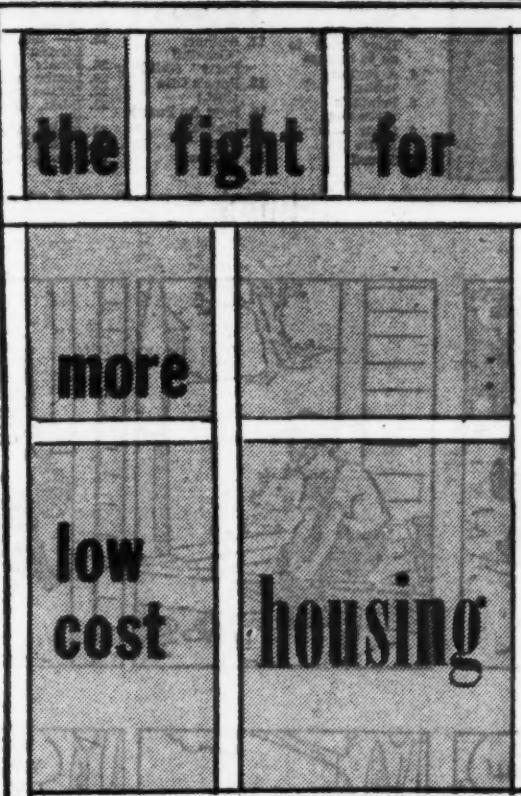
But the never-say-die real estate lobby, which had vigorously fought the 1949 public housing authorization, never slackened its efforts to kill public housing. Since 1949 the enemies of public housing have been able to secure riders to appropriation bills which, despite the original congressional authorization, have restricted actual public housing construction to an insignificant trickle.

* * *

THE Eisenhower Administration has been a powerful and vocal ally of the anti-public housing forces. Housing Administrator Albert Cole, who as a congressman did everything possible to wipe out public housing, has been the Administration's chief spokesman.

Cole's crystal ball has not been too clear. Last year the Senate voted to authorize 135,000 units and the final compromise congressional action permitted 45,000 units, 10,000 more than Cole had recommended. Nevertheless, the Administration this year is again calling for only 35,000 units.

Refusing to heed the Administration's recommendation, the Senate Subcommittee on Housing has just recommended resumption of the 1949 program on a full scale. This would mean annual construction of 135,000 units until the remaining 500,000 units in the 1949 program are built.



Following are remarks of Senator Herbert H. Lehman, New York Senator, commenting on the dispute between Democratic leaders and the Administration on the scope of the public housing program:

"I believe that the time is overdue for raising our sights on the housing problem. I believe we should proceed immediately to provide a housing program which will fulfill the stated objectives set forth in the Housing Act of 1949—namely—'A decent home in a proper living environment for every American family.'

"We have heard the Administration set forth its housing program for the next two years. Mr. Cole and his assistants have clearly testified that they do not know what the housing needs of the American people are, and they frankly concede that the Eisenhower Administration's housing program is not drafted to meet any particular level or area of need.

Administration 'Wait and See'

"As a matter of fact, the program presented before as the Administration's program can be characterized in very simple terms . . . namely, to wait and see what the 'demand' will be, and while waiting, to urge the American people to be satisfied with a slogan proclaimed by the President—'56—the year to fix'. The Administration's program is a patch-up, fix-up repair program—and even this program would be subject to the high interest rates established under the new FHA insured home repair loan program.

"From the testimony thus far presented to the Subcommittee, from the information on housing needs I have seen based on the 1950 Census, from the first-hand knowledge I have of the housing crisis in my State of New York, and from the letters and correspondence I receive every day from persons unable to find adequate housing they can afford, I can say that only a full-scale program designed to meet the needs of all income groups, and all persons without regard to race, will forestall the housing crisis that is descending upon our nation.

"Today we are probably building only about one-half of the new homes the American people need, and this, despite the relatively high rate of home construction of the past several years. The demand for housing for the older members of our population is tragically outstripping available supply. Housing for minority groups is a national disgrace.

'Crash Program Is Needed'

"No one denies that we could eliminate every substandard home in America if we really wished to do so. I believe that we should attack this problem on a 'crash' basis. We should not wait for an economic slump or an acute housing crisis before we authorize a program of the size that is needed. We should not wait until we are forced to move under emergency conditions. The 84th Congress should proceed to do what each of us really knows should be done, and can be done."

lighter side of the record

Ticklers

By George



"Lose your head at the party?"

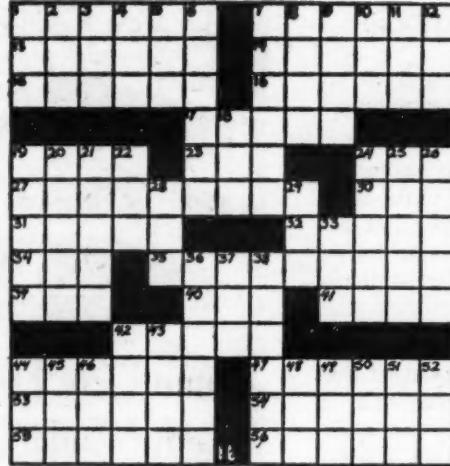
Across

1. 7: Now they call it "inter-position"
12. Aptitude
14. Beyond
15. Thin
16. Tired out
17. Adds water
18. Century plant
21. Tee
27. Storms
30. Unit
31. Thoughts
32. Talk
34. Ever
35. Voted in favor
36. Big Steel
40. Car of 20's
41. Russian provinces (abbr.)
42. His rights are at issue on controversy over #s 1, 7
43. Across
44. Pierce
47. Table
48. It's a lie!
49. Charm
50. Invisible
56. Introductions

Down

1. Throughfares (abbr.)
2. Hit
3. Where Miss Lucy tried to go to college
4. A region (abbr.)
5. Printer's measures
6. Sault — Marie
7. Sword
8. Image
9. 144 (pft.)
10. Skip
11. Author, "Cocktail Party" (init.)
12. Pope's title (init.)
18. Hey! (in Paris)
19. Goodby
20. Ores
21. Debtors
22. Engineers Nat'l Ass'n.
24. Ships
25. Linden
26. Plants
27. Letter ends
29. Indian tribe
33. B&M, Santa Fe
36. Incite (2 wds.)
37. Through
38. Combined
42. Nathan
43. Besides
44. The "typos"
45. Homo sapiens
46. Promissory notes (abbr.)
48. Compass pt.
49. Chatter
50. Australian bird
51. Negative
52. Medics

Puzzle answer inverted at right.

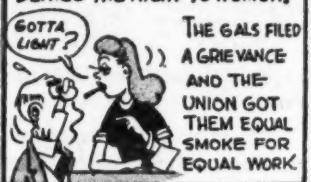


LABOR ODDITIES

Most popular strike in Paris
Subway fare collectors worked their regular hours but refused to take any money...



The California Tel Co. had permitted men employees to smoke at their desks but denied the right to women!



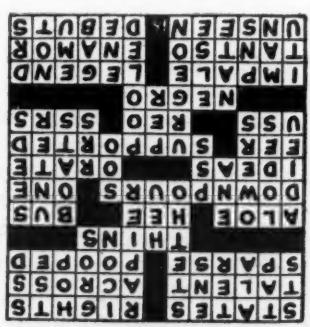
The gals filed a grievance and the union got them equal smoke for equal work.

Total time lost in work accidents was 295,000,000 work days equivalent to the shutdown of plants with about one-million workers for an entire year.



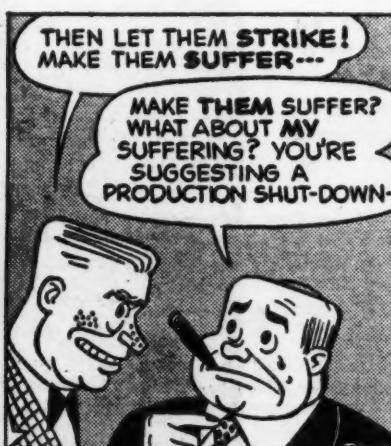
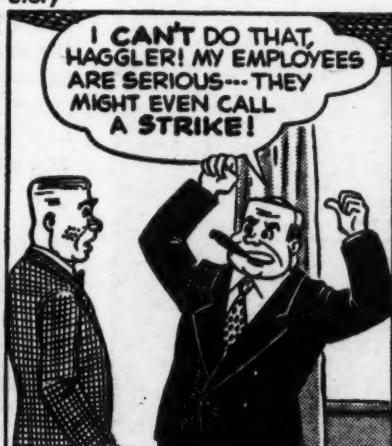
The N.Y. Daily News published a letter from an E. Orange, N.J. man who said: "I'm sick of this Taft-Hartley Bill. I say we should pay it and get it over with."

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Puzzle Answer

"UNION MAID" - A Serial Story



—By Bill Perkins

LABOR NEWS ROUNDUP

Labor Upheld in 4 Rulings By U. S. Supreme Court

WASHINGTON—The U. S. Supreme Court in a series of cases has upheld union positions on picketing, Walsh-Healey, bargaining and non-Communist affidavits.

In separate actions the Court took these steps:

- Ruled that a Louisiana court overstepped its bounds in banning picketing because a union was not in compliance with Taft-Hartley Act requirements.
- Agreed to hear arguments next term on whether the NLRB may refuse to serve a union whose officer has been convicted of falsely filing a non-Communist affidavit.
- Upheld a lower court order that a company must bargain with a union on an employee stock purchase plan.
- Affirmed the right of the Secretary of Labor to determine a single nation-wide prevailing wage under the Walsh-Healey Act for the woolen and worsted industry.

In its only written decision dealing with labor relations the Court ruled seven-to-one that the Louisiana Supreme Court exceeded its authority in banning picketing by District 50 of the Mine Workers at the Arkansas Oak Flooring Co., Alexandria, La. The state court held that since the UMW was not in compliance with the Taft-Hartley Act it could not be certified as bargaining agent and had no right to picket.

The U. S. tribunal, however, said the union's failure to file "was not a confession of guilt on anything." The state court erred in enjoining picketing, the opinion said, adding "a state may not prohibit the exercise of rights which the federal acts protect."

Killer Misses Hotel Unionist

MIAMI BEACH, Fla.—An assassin's bullet narrowly missed Vice-Pres. Bert H. Ross of the Hotel Workers at his home here.

"No one is going to bully me into leaving," Ross said a short time after two slugs crashed through the window of his living room. He made it clear neither he nor the union would abandon attempts to organize the hotels along this resort city's Gold Coast. Ross said he did not have "the slightest idea" who attempted to murder him.

He indicated, however, that the try on his life was linked with his one-year campaign to bring unionism to the underpaid hotel workers.

Ross told police the first shot shattered a window one foot above his head and it was a few seconds after he and his wife flung themselves to the floor when another bullet slammed through the window an inch from the first one.



Cominform End a Maneuver, Meany Says in Broadcast

WASHINGTON (PAI)—AFL-CIO Pres. George Meany, in a special message for world broadcast by the U. S. Information Agency, declared that dissolution of the Cominform will not change the opposition of free trade unions to any united front with the Communists.

In a message broadcast by the Voice of America, Meany said dissolution of the Cominform was a "tactical propaganda gesture" which had little significance. He pointed out that the Cominform was "not the instrumentality through which the Kremlin controlled its branches either in the satellite countries or in the free world."

"This hypocritical maneuver should deceive no one," Meany concluded. "Certainly it should not and will not change the opposition of free trade unions to any united front with the Communists."

Clothing Workers Get Raise

NEW YORK (PAI)—Some 150,000 members of the Amalgamated Clothing Workers are enjoying the first national contract in a major industry this year as ACWA signed an agreement providing for a package increase of 16-1/2 cents an hour plus liberalized insurance benefits.

The pay raise of 12-1/2 cents was the first in three years for the clothing workers. It is expected to set a pattern of equal or slightly smaller increases for 100,000 ACWA members employed in the cotton garment and shirt industries and 75,000 others in the neckwear, glove and other branches.

Both sides hailed the new pact as a continuation of the "enlightened tradition" which has characterized labor-management relations in this industry for the last 30 years.

Millionaire's Tax Lid Assailed by AFL-CIO

WASHINGTON—The AFL-CIO sharply assailed a proposed constitutional amendment to shift the tax burden to the poor by limiting the power of Congress to impose income taxes greater than 25 percent.

Testifying before a Senate Judiciary subcommittee, Research Dir. Stanley H. Ruttenberg pointed out that this "millionaires' amendment" is backed by groups and individuals who want "to destroy the progressive income tax structure."

"The principle of taxation according to ability to pay has become ingrained in the American system and is the basic American concept of fairness and equality," he declared.

Advocates of the amendment proposal, he reminded the subcommittee, have had similar resolutions ever since 1938 and have failed to persuade any Congress that they should be adopted. The same groups have also peddled the "millionaires' amendment" to state legislatures, asking them to pass resolutions forcing Congress to call constitutional convention on the issue," he said.

"They now claim 31 states. What they do not choose to discuss is that 13 states have rescinded and two states had their resolutions vetoed by their governors," he told the Senate unit.

AFL-CIO Opposes Pay TV

WASHINGTON—The AFL-CIO told the Senate Commerce Committee that the best interest of the public lies in the continuance and improvement of the present system of free television rather than in the introduction of a system under which viewers would pay for their entertainment.

Testifying at hearings on the desirability of establishing a system of paid TV, Andrew J. Biemiller, AFL-CIO legislative representative, declared that "this drastic proposal runs directly contrary to the basic tenets of the American system of broadcasting. At no time has the American public, whose investment in television sets has reached \$16 billion, been told it would have to pay for the privilege of watching television programs."

Biemiller said that the introduction of this new concept would have "serious repercussions" on the employment of workers throughout the entertainment industry by drastically changing the present system of competitive programs.

The AFL-CIO spokesman acknowledged that paid television might benefit "a few stations and a few promoters." But, he added, that at the same time it would add a costly burden to the expenses of owning a TV set "for the dubious pleasure of watching certain programs which, in effect, are not likely to vary in content from the programs now being offered."

what's new in our industry

Sales of national Macy's chain for 52 weeks ending Jan. 28 reached a new high of \$389.6 million, an 8.5% gain over the previous year. The company plans to open four new stores this year . . .

Gimbels Bros. recorded the highest sales levels in the history of the firm for the fiscal year ended Jan. 31 . . .

Abraham & Straus has purchased a 45-acre tract in Huntington, L. I., for "anticipated future development" as a shopping center. Also a total of 9,000 sq. ft. of space is being added to A&S Garden City store . . .

Lane Bryant reports record sales, an increase of 7.1% over 1954, for the fiscal year ended Jan. 31, 1956 . . .

Net earnings of May's rose 14.5% for the past fiscal year, while net sales rose 11%. To keep these profits rising, the firm plans an expansion of revolving credit throughout its ten major stores . . .

Burdine's, Florida's largest department store, will affiliate with Federated through an exchange of stock . . .

Net profit of Namm-Loeser's showed an increase in the fiscal year ended Jan. 28, 1956, over the preceding year, although sales declined

slightly . . . Department stores in the suburban areas surrounding New York City are doing the biggest business in their history. . . .

Sears, Roebuck rang up new records in sales for the past fiscal year and forecast a "moderate sales increase" of around 5% for this year . . . April sales were considered "disappointing" by W. T. Grant. However, the company plans to continue its expansion program, concentrating specifically on suburban locations. In 1955, the majority of new Grant stores opened were in shopping centers . . . Montgomery Ward ended April with a 6% sales gain and the first quarter with a 10% volume increase. Twenty-four new catalog stores all over the country have scheduled openings during May and June. . . .

Earnings of Safeway Stores leaped to \$4,297,136 in the 12 weeks ended March 24, from \$2,513,010 in last year's comparable period. Under its expansion Safeway has already completed 32 stores this year and have another 41 under

construction . . . Minute Maid, biggest packer of frozen orange concentrate, slashed production schedules 12% below the output originally slated for 1956. The reason: competition from the makers of unadvertised brands. Libby, McNeill & Libby may soon do the same . . . Foremost Dairies sales for the first quarter were over \$4 million higher than the comparable period last year . . . In the way of good will advertising, one supermarket employs a man to clean windshields of cars in the parking lot while the shopper is inside. A card left in the wiper reads, "With our compliments." . . . A two year program for the construction of 21 shopping centers is being developed by Food Fair Stores . . .

Although shoe production in April showed a normal seasonal decline from March, the estimated output of 50 million pairs was about 5% ahead of last year, according to the Tanners Council . . . Plans to spend approximately \$2.5 million on new store construction reported by McCrory Stores . . . Retail trade in the month of March, while sea-

sonally higher than the preceding month, did not reach last year's levels, falling short by 0.5% . . . New York City businessmen have expressed confidence in the city's economy by forecasting rising employment for the next three months . . . United Cigar-Whalen Stores showed earnings for 1955 of \$540,531 as compared to \$489,273 for 1954 . . . U.S. exports in March were the largest for any month in history, reflecting booming business abroad . . . The Italian government will shortly attempt to set up displays in department stores throughout U.S.A. as part of a project to increase its exports of consumer goods to this country . . . Instalment sales at department stores in March were up 16% above the year earlier level and 28% higher than February instalment sales, the Federal Reserve Board reports . . . The Fair Store in Chicago has installed two phones at one of the store's entrances—a red one for the complaints and recommendations, and a buff one directly connected to the beauty shop in the store.

—Compiled by Rosemarie DaSilva

PERHAPS the greatest lobby ever organized by a single trade union brought more than 1,000 delegates of the RWDSU to Washington, D. C. on May 2 to visit with some 100 congressmen and senators—and to press for coverage of retail employees under the \$1 an hour federal minimum wage law.

This was a magnificent and inspiring turnout—with 22 states represented, and delegates coming from as far away as Kansas City, Mo. and Birmingham, Ala. A tremendous delegation came down from New York on a special 10-car train.

What happens now in the fight to end, once and for all, discrimination against retail employees under the Minimum Wage Law? RWDSU Pres. Max Green-



berg declared that "all reports I receive show that extended coverage has a good chance of passage at this session of Congress—provided we follow up the wonderful mobilization in Washington with thousands of letters, postcards and telegrams to congressmen.

"We of the RWDSU have the special responsibility to press for this legislation," Pres. Greenberg said. "This is the fight of the retail workers and their allies in our union; this is our fight, and no one should carry it for us. I call on every member of our union to write quickly to his congressman and senator—and to the chairmen of the Senate and House Labor committees which will act on this legislation—urging that speedy and favorable consideration be given to covering retail workers under the federal Minimum Wage Law."

In addition to your own congressman and senator, write to: Sen. Paul Douglas, Senate Office Bldg., Washington, D. C.; and to: Rep. Graham Barden, House Office Bldg., Washington, D. C.